





or's WINTER Book. For sale by Crocker & Brewster.

This book is intended for the recreation and enjoyment of boys in the winter months. Mrs. Read & Co. have sent to the number of the agents of the publication, *Charles' MISCELLANY*, containing the following articles: The Sister of Rembrandt, Anecdotes of Vegetation, Tumours, Overturns and other Poems, by Coleridge.

We have from the publishers, the Union Magazine for January, edited by Mrs. C. M. Kirkland.

B. & C. have placed upon our table, No. 2 of CHAPMAN'S AMERICAN DRAMA—Wine, the number contains plates representing the four figures; this drawing-book is got up in superb style, and is highly spoken of by those competent to judge of its merits.

Library & Guild have commenced the publication of a new periodical for children, called the *BOY AND GIRL'S MAGAZINE*; the first number is well.

We have received GODEY'S LADY'S Book, January, 1848, edited by Mrs. R. J. Hale, in three elegant plates.

## General Intelligence.

### CONGRESS.

The great and abiding topics of the Mexican and the extension of slave territory have already been brought before both Houses. The move was made in the Senate by Mr. Douglass of New York. He presented the two following resolutions, which are pro-slavery as they can be.

Resolved, That true policy requires the Government of the United States to strengthen its position, and that neither in such acquisition nor territorial organization thereof, any condition, directly or indirectly imposed or institutions be called for or established, which will interfere with the people thereof to form a free association, with the powers and privileges of the confederacy.

Resolved, That in organizing a territorial government for the United States, the principles of self-government, upon which our federal system rests, will be the true spirit and meaning of the institution; and that the confederacy should be bound by all the laws concerning the policy therein to the Legislature of the people themselves.

John Brown introduced the following resolutions, which doubtless express the views of the American people.

That to conquer Mexico and hold it as a province, or to incorporate it into the Union, would be inconsistent with the views for which the war has been prosecuted; from the settled policy of the Government, in conflict with its character and general end and subversion of our free and popular institutions.

That no line of policy in the further conduct of the war should be adopted which would lead to consequences so disastrous.

The House, Mr. Holmes of South Carolina, introduced the following preamble and resolution.

That the confederacy was formed for the purpose of maintaining the Union, and the confederacy, it becomes the duty of the Government, in regulating the government so as to secure that welfare; and whereas the prosperity, and safety, and perhaps national existence, of the United States, now, and now against our sister Republic, are of the most important consideration should lead to the adoption of such measures as may result in justice to Mexico, and pronouncing the independence of the United States; therefore,

That it is inexpedient for the United Government, so to use its conquests as to give the people of Mexico, but not the people of the United States, the right to self-government, by treaty stipulations, a lasting peace between the two republics, such as exists between France and Spain, and that what was agreed to recede all the territories taken from Mexico beyond the Rio Grande, and the remainder were to be considered as soon as possible. These are all the particulars we have yet received.

We hear from another source that eighteen hours had been given to the Senate on Saturday evening, as was expected.—*Salem Register.*

A correspondent of the Traveller gives the following list of the names of persons lost.

Capt. Joseph Roberson and his son Charles.

Passengers.—Mr. Thos. Shaw, wife and Miss Julia Larkin, niece of Mr. Shaw; Miss Margaret Haines; Mr. Horace Crosby, of Albany; Mr. Tuck, of Philadelphia, and sons of Daniel and H. H. Tuck.

Passengers.—Mr. Edward Flung, Thos. Peter Conner, James Casson, George Hayes, Thomas Warren, John Summers, Isaac Tracy, and others.

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## Poetry.

For the Boston Recorder.

WINTER.

Winter! there is coming the race of snows,  
Strangers to thought, who shudder there;  
They frown upon, the smile evades their ken,  
For lovelier the path there won't to me.

I love thy snowing steams to hear;  
The blasts that bid the aged maples nod,  
The winds are music to mine ear,  
To me their murmuring is the voice of God.

Poems of kindly charity!

"Tis thine to them's hearts—the frigid soul,  
Strewn from frost, is meted, nor denies

Its bid to the troubled heart "be whole!"

Winter! there are not surer!

Though flocks be thy aspect, bliss is thine

Unknown to frost May. Upon thy shrive

Is often seen the general opah's tear.

Parent of treasures, thou!

Should I love them? O, can eight compare

With thy dear friends—yea—yea, the dearest?

The wife's warmest and children's kiss are there.

W. B. Tappan.

For the Boston Recorder.

GO! on, the race is just begun,

They win the prize who consist not;

The crown of victory is ours;

To each as the end endures.

On! for! perhaps the goal is nigh,

One effort more wins victory;

What! will ye let us who have run,

And stop just as the race is won?

Heart you not acclimated, too,

Both round you, and from your skies?

Do not the angels look with smiles,

Upon your youthful, vigorous souls?

And how you seem so duteous noise!

Soft, as in air, the light cloud floats?

To welcome your arrival, where,

There's no more toil, and no more tears?

One noble effort! for the last,

And then, you're tried, you pass,

Then comes repose; then joy, for ye,

You grasp the prize when called to die.

J. B. D.

For the Boston Recorder.

ONLY THIS ONCE.

NUMBERS 10, 11.

\* Only this! the wine-cup glows,  
All sparkling with its ruby wine;

The bacchanalian revels,

And folly make the madness gay.

Then so, so, on, so deeply, sprawled,

The way of conscience really spurned,

His promise of remorse sent.

And, coward-like, to guilt returned.

\* Only this! it is told,

He wilfully quaff'd the poisonous tide;

With more than Eros' youth still.

The birth-right of his soul, and died.

I only say that health forsooth,

The man left his mortal dead,

But reason in his course shone.

And all the life of was fled.

Thus angel eyes with winged,

When he, woe virtue fair would save,

His sacred way so help'd kept save,

And strangely drew'd a drunkard's grave.

\* Only this! Beware! beware!

Given not upon the blushing wine;

Rebel temptation's siren song;

And prayerful seek for strength divine.

Ms. Signature.

Miscellaneous.

Antiquity and Use of Beds.

It was universally the practice, in the first ages, for mankind to sleep upon skins of beasts.

It was originally the custom of the Greeks and Romans.

It was particularly the custom of the ancient Britons before the Roman invasion; and these skins were spread upon the floor of their spartan abodes.

Afterwards, the beds of the Italians had been constantly composed of straw; it still formed those of the soldiers and officers at the conquest of Lancashire; and from both, our countrymen learnt their use.

But it appears to have been taken up only by the gentlemen, as the common Welch had their beds thinly studded with rushes as late as the conclusion of the twelfth century; and the gentlemen it continued to do so for ages.

Straw was used even in the royal chambers of England as late as the close of the 13th.

Most of the peasants about Manchester lie on chaff at present; so do likewise the common people all over Scotland; in the Highlands, heath is also very generally used as bedding by the gentry; and the repose on a heath bed has been celebrated by travellers as a peculiar luxury, superior to that yielded by down.

And the chafers and palings bed remains general to this day.

But after the short period of a few years, beds were no longer suffered to rest upon the ground.

The better mode, that had anciently prevailed in the East, and had long before been introduced into Italy, was adopted in Britain; and they were now mounted on pedestals.

This, however, was equally confined to the gentlemen.

The bed still continued on the floor among the common people.

And the gross custom, that had prevailed from the beds of the retainers retained by the lower Britons to the last, as the common beds were hid along the walls of their houses, and formed one common dormitory for all the members of the family.

The fashion continued universally among the inferior ranks of the Welch within these four or five ages, and with the more uncivilized part of the Highlands down to our own times.

And to great distress from time to time, in the neighbouring Boston, within fifteen or twenty years, the persons that repaired to the bath, the upper part being allotted to the ladies, and the lower to the gentlemen, and only partitioned from each other by a curtain.

The dining or discursive beds, on which the ancients at meals, were four or five feet high.

Three of these beds were ordinarily appropriated by the master of the house, the table and the room where the eat were called *triclinium*) in such a manner that one of the sides of the table remained open and accessible to the waiters. Each bed would hold three or four, rarely five persons. These beds were unknown before the year 2000.

Then the Romans, till then, sat down to eat on plain wooden benches, in imitation of the heads of the oxen, as Varro expresses it, after the manner of the Greeks.

The *Caesar Scipio Afranius* first made an innovation; he had brought from Carthage some of those little beds called *peccinai*, or *archaia*; being of a wood common enough, very low, stuffed only with straw or hay, and covered with sheep skins, *bedilia peccinai stratis*.

In reality, there was no great difference as to delicacy, between these new beds and the ancient beds, which were to obtain, by softening and relaxing the body, men on trying to rest themselves more conveniently lying along than by sitting down.

For the ladies, it did not seem at first consistent with their modesty to adopt the mode of lying, accordingly they kept to the old custom all the time of the commonwealth; but from the first Caesar, they ate on their beds.

For the ladies, they were not long kept to the ancient discipline.

When they were admitted to table, they only sat on the edge of the beds of their nearest relations.

Never, says Suetonius, did the young Caesar, Gaius and Lucius, eat at the table of Augustus; but they were set in *imo loco*, or as Tacitus expresses it, *ad lecti fulra*.

From the greatest simplicity, the Roman by degrees, and then the ladies, adopted the mode of lying, which hung over her bosom, and a white lace covering half of her head and face.

The groom was in full uniform, which looked very imposing.

They were married by the priest, after which there was a shaking of hands, and mingling of congratulations.

Mexican girl. The parties, it appears, had been engaged for two years, and the young officer during the late battles, had his leg shot off; notwithstanding, the girl was true and constant, and determined to have him. The young officer, in his turn, was equally determined to have her, and they only sat on the edge of the beds of their nearest relations.

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New Bottoming Fruit Trees.

The following account of the successful result of a very early experiment in the culture of fruit, is from the *English Farmer*.

We had on our grounds several pear trees, upon stocks which had ceased to make any growth, and put on the appearance of a premature age, with indications of early approaching decay.

These were to be the most promising magnificence.

Plants assured us it was no new thing to see them covered over with plates of silver, adorned with the softest mats, and the richest counterpanes.

Lampridus, speaking of Heligobulus, says, he had beds of solid silver, *solidis argenti habuit lectos aut tricliniarum*.

We may add, that Pompey, in his third triumph, brought a bed of gold.

The Romans had also beds wherein they studied, and beds wherein the dead were carried to the funeral pile.

—Philadelphia Post.

W. B. Tappan.

For the Boston Recorder.

WINTER.

Winter! there is coming the race of snows,

Strangers to thought, who shudder there;

They frown upon, the smile evades their ken,

For lovelier the path there won't to me.

I love thy snowing steams to hear;

The blasts that bid the aged maples nod,

The winds are music to mine ear,

To me their murmuring is the voice of God.

Poems of kindly charity!

"Tis thine to them's hearts—the frigid soul,

Strewn from frost, is meted, nor denies

Its bid to the troubled heart "be whole!"

Winter! there are not surer!

Though flocks be thy aspect, bliss is thine

Unknown to frost May. Upon thy shrive

Is often seen the general opah's tear.

Parent of treasures, thou!

Should I love them? O, can eight compare

With thy dear friends—yea—yea, the dearest?

The wife's warmest and children's kiss are there.

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For the Boston Recorder.

GO! on, the race is just begun,

They win the prize who consist not;

The crown of victory is ours;

To each as the end endures.

On! for! perhaps the goal is nigh,

One effort more wins victory;

What! will ye let us who have run,

And stop just as the race is won?

Heart you not acclimated, too,

Both round you, and from your skies?

Do not the angels look with smiles,

Upon your youthful, vigorous souls?

And how you seem so duteous noise!

Soft, as in air, the light cloud floats?

To welcome your arrival, where,

There's no more toil, and no more tears?

One noble effort! for the last,

And then, you're tried, you pass,

Then comes repose; then joy, for ye,

You grasp the prize when called to die.

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